REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-19 and 21-30 remain in the application. Claim 15 has been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-15 are allowed.

Applicant does not admit that the remaining pending claims 16, 18-19 and 21-30 are not patentable based on the rejections. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully requests claims 16, 18-19 and 21-30 be cancelled without prejudice and a notice of allowance be submitted for the allowed claims 1-15.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 18, 2004

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